



M E D I A R E L E A S E
STATE OF TENNESSEE
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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**CORDELL HULL BIRTHPLACE STATE PARK FOLK FESTIVAL
SCHEDULED FOR MAY 24**

FESTIVAL FEATURES CONCERT, EVENTS HIGHLIGHTING CULTURAL AND NATURAL HISTORY

Byrdstown, Tenn. - Cordell Hull Birthplace State Park will host its annual Cordell Hull Folk Festival on Saturday, May 24, 2008, beginning at 10 a.m. This year's festival theme is "A Glimpse of Our Past: 1950 and Before." The day will include a variety of cultural and natural history events that relate to historic life in the Upper Cumberland region. The event is free and open to the public.

Highlights of the day include Long Hunter and Civil War living history displays and traditional skill demonstrations, such as basket making and quilting. Clogging, American Indian dance, and a large variety of local and regional musicians, such as the Cross Brothers Band, Lonesome County Line and Ross Moore, will perform on the main stage throughout the day.

The festival will also feature a children's area with mule rides, a petting zoo, and old-fashioned games and activities. Nature events include guided trail hikes to popular Bunkum Cave, a talk on native medicinal herbs with John Warner, and wildlife programs about native birds of prey and reptiles.

This year, the festival will include a quilting contest with two categories, quilts crafted before 1950 and quilts crafted after 1950. Quilt entries may be dropped off at the park on Thursday, May 22 and may be picked up directly following the festival or Sunday and Monday between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. Prizes will be awarded at the festival on Saturday between 4 and 5 p.m.

Festivities will continue into the evening with storytelling at 6 p.m., followed by Nashville singer-songwriter Mark Elliott, performing the song "Cordell," which he wrote for the famous Nobel laureate.

Period food and beverages will be available for purchase throughout the day. For more information on the Folk Festival and to see a complete schedule, please visit www.tnstateparks.com/CordellHull and click on the "Cordell Hull Folk Festival" link, or call the park at 931-864-3247.

Cordell Hull Birthplace State Park and Museum is a historic site near Byrdstown, Tennessee, north of Cookeville. The 45-acre site includes a representation of Hull's log cabin birthplace, an activities center and a museum housing documents and artifacts, including Hull's Nobel Peace Prize. The park also features the beautiful Bunkum Cave Trail, leading to an overlook and the entrance of historic Bunkum Cave.

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